



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

July 13, 2005

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Madison, Wisconsin – Stephen P. Sinnott, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Anthony Howard, age 36, of Madison, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz to 293 months in federal prison, without parole, for conspiracy to distribute heroin and crack cocaine. The defendant pleaded guilty to this charge on May 2, 2005.

The charges against Howard were the result of an investigation conducted by the Dane County Sheriff's Department initiated in October 1999 as part of an investigation into the heroin overdose death of Eddie Tallard, age 17, of Middleton, Wisconsin.

The advisory federal sentencing guidelines were 188-235 months. However, after noting that three individuals had overdosed on heroin supplied by Howard, Judge Shabaz concluded that a 293-month sentence was reasonable, responsible, and necessary, and that a 235-month sentence would be "woefully inadequate."

In a related case, Shane M. Bradley, age 31, of Madison, Wisconsin, pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court on March 30, 2004 to participating in this conspiracy with Howard. He was sentenced by Judge Shabaz on June 9, 2004 to 223 months in prison.

The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeffrey M. Anderson.

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